THE PHILADELPHIA MINERVA.

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Meſſrs. Woodruff & Pechin,

The following is tranſcribed from a late periodical publication.—By giving it a place in your paper you will much oblige one who wiſhes to promote inſtructive and entertaining productions.

THOUGHTS *on the Choice of a* WIFE; *in a* LETTER *to a* YOUNG BACHELOR.

"Marriage the happieſt ſtate of life would be,
"If hands were only join'd where hearts agree."

PRIVACY *of a Letter from a* BACHELOR *to his Friend,* an OLD GENTLEMAN.

Dear and honoured ſir,

AS you have often aſſured and convinced me, that you are ever ready to aſſiſt me with your advice, on any ſubject in your power, when I ask it, and as I put much confidence in your opinions and conſtils, I now take the liberty to ask a few lines on the ſubject of *the choice of a wife*;—For indeed I begin to feel the life of a bachelor to be very luxurious, helpleſs and irkſome. I beg my reſpects to my worthy friend Mrs —— and am, with the greateſt regard and reverence,

your obliged humble
ſervant.

THE ANSWER.

My dear young friend,

I RECEIVED your late favour ſafe, per the poſt, and muſt aſſure you it is with the greateſt ſatisfaction I can ſteal a moment or two from buſineſs, to comply, in ſome meaſure, with your requeſt, by delivering a few hints or ſcattered thoughts to you, reſpecting *the choice of a wife*. In the courſe of a few weeks I expect to ſee you at ——, when I intend to be more full and particular, in a converſation with you on this ſubject, than the hurry of buſineſs will now permit me to be on paper.

I ſhall, however, at preſent, in the firſt place, endeavour briefly to demonſtrate the error of being directed in the choice of a wife, by the mere conſideration of wealth; and, in the ſecond place, on the other hand, that a man ſhould conſider, before he marries, whether, upon his connection with a particular woman, they will have a competency.

The choice of a wife ſhould be directed, in a great meaſure, by a correſpondence of ſentiment and diſpoſition, at leaſt ſo much ſo, as it is neceſſary to make the connection, if not a bleſſing, a calm rather than a curſe. A man ſhould chooſe ſuch a woman as he has great *reaſon* to believe will be able and inclined to render him happy, independent of the good or bad fortune that may befal them through life. And though a woman ſhould poſſeſs an immenſe fortune, I would not recommend her as a wife to one, who did not conceive that ſhe would be capable of making him a happy man, but who had a principal eye to her riches. Riches, experience (which is the teſt of truth) daily tells us, will never alone afford happineſs to their poſſeſſors. A woman, whoſe ſentiments do not correſpond with her huſband's, will often make a much worſe wife if ſhe had a FORTUNE when he married her, than if ſhe had nothing: For if they differ in opinion—and difference in opinion ſometimes inſenſibly produces caſual and temporary perſonal difference and coolneſs—the wife, if ſhe brought him a fortune, a circumſtance ſhe will never forget, will be very apt to take airs on herſelf, and by her obſtinacy add fuel to the kindling flame: on the contrary, had ſhe brought him ſcarcely any thing, ſhe would be more likely to ſubmit with mildneſs and ſerenity in all their little differences, and this affectionate humility would be the means of diſpelling the frown from the countenance, and riſing anger from the boſom, and of uniting the ſenſations of love and peace.

Happineſs is, I believe, with every man, the main object in the choice of a wife. But many miſtake the means of ſecuring it; they build it on a very improper and deceiving baſis, for inſtance ſome upon wealth. But *domeſtic* happineſs is the trueſt happineſs, and the foundation of all other happineſs in the married ſtate: And I do defy the man who is unhappy at home, to ſay that he is truly happy when abroad; it is true, he may feel a ſatisfaction in being abſent from a torment, or being not in the midſt of his domeſtic broils, or he may by the help of a glaſs of wine and jovial company, paſs away an hour or ſo in forgetfulneſs of his miſery;—yet this is of ſhort duration;—ſoon—very ſoon, the diſagreeable reflection, awakened by the recollection of his domeſtic diſquietudes, pour in upon his heart, and he feels a ſudden determination of his artificial happineſs. If this is not the caſe with him, I ſhould without the leaſt heſitation, pronounce him an unfeeling creature, unworthy of being united to any female whatever—Many, my dear young friend, are found to ſacrifice their health, their ſpirits, and their time to the bottle, in *heart-aching* ſenſations of domeſtic ſtrife. And this may be owing, in a great meaſure, to an error in the choice of a partner; perhaps, from chooſing one of different diſpoſition and ſentiments, through ſome wrong motive, as the deſire of wealth, the rank of a family, &c. But indeed there are ſome men who will not be happy, let their wives be ever ſo obliging, condeſcending, and amiable; but thoſe are ſuch as have a hell in their own hearts, and whoſe whims and diſpoſitions nothing elſe than extreme good nature can put up with. I need not now take notice of this claſs of huſbands; I am glad to ſay, I am addreſſing a perſon, that will always exert himſelf to render happy the woman who ſhall have the good fortune to call him huſband. "Give me," ſaid a wiſe man who was ſpeaking of the marriage of his daughter, "a man without money, rather than money without a man." This is equally applicable, concerning a wife. However, do not miſtake me by ſuppoſing I conſider money as an entire enemy to happineſs. Far from it. When a man conceives, that in his connection with a particular woman he will experience the married ſtate to be a ſtate of happineſs, and reaſons from her diſpoſition, character and conduct, &c. I mean from the accompliſhments of her mind, and the virtues of her heart, I allow that the appendage of a fortune need be no objection. But I would ſay further, that in my general judgment of matches, where one man has married a handſome woman with a fortune, and a ſecond has married without one, I ſhould be inclined to think the latter would be more likely to experience conjugal bliſs, for it is very reaſonable to ſuppoſe that the latter was determined in his choice ſolely by the accompliſhments of the woman, and the qualities of her mind and heart—and that the former might have been a good deal dazzled, and at the ſame time attracted, by the ſplendour of beauty and fortune: Now as fortune and beauty are frail and fading, they are by no means a foundation on which to build happineſs. Not that I would always be infallibly right in my judgment: for fortune &c. may ſometimes be very good ſecondary conſiderations; and I think always ſhould. But,—On the other hand, a man ſhould never marry till he is in a capacity of maintaining a wife, and of continuing her in the ſame rank in which ſhe moved when ſingle. And therefore, he ſhould pay ſo much regard to the external circumſtance of *fortune*, as to calculate, whether, when their fortunes are joined, they will have a competency, and be able to live in a manner of which their friends need not be aſhamed when they viſit them.—For competence is eſſential to one very probable ingredient in happineſs in the married ſtate.

Reaſon's whole pleaſure, all the joys of ſenſe
Lie in three words, health, peace, and competence.

And if a woman be no economiſt, but has a taſte for diſſipation and dreſs, though ſhe may bring him ſome eſtate, he is not to reckon it as ſo much addition to *his*, but muſt firſt calculate what it is likely ſhe will *coſt*, and then what her fortune will *yield annually*: now if the latter exceeds the former, he is to reckon the *exceſs* alone as the addition to his income; but if the former ſhould exceed the latter, the wife will be exactly ſo much an incumbrance as the *exceſs*, and if he has not, when ſingle, more than ſufficient to maintain himſelf, ſuch match is unadviſeable, at leaſt till his circumſtances are bettered.

And indeed the *exceſs* is now-a-days very often found to be on the ſide of ſpending. This is an error of parents, and operates in a very contrary direction from what they wiſh and intend;—it *increaſes* the difficulty they intend to *remedy*. They pay little or no attention to improve their daughters' minds, but take pains to bring them up in the luxury of faſhion, without having it in their power to give them any thing as a marriage portion, or to leave them any thing at their deceaſe, *that is*, in fact, they dreſs up their daughters, and teach them the eaſy leſſon of living above their circumſtances; hoping, no doubt, to recommend them to the notice of ſome clever fellow. But a prudent man, of the rank in which ſuch a woman *dreſſes*, will not take her to wife, unleſs he has a great ſufficiency himſelf, and ſhe be a remarkably fine woman; which latter can ſeldom be the caſe, as her education has not been attended to, and as ſhe has been led to conſider *dreſs* the *ultima neceſſarium* to conſtitute a lady. And a man of the rank in which ſhe *ought* to dreſs will not aſpire to one who holds her head ſo high; or rather, would

be ſorry to marry one, who will have ſo many unneceſſary and idle demands upon their little treaſury, which has been earned by *his* ſober induſtry. This miſtaken notion of parents, though intended for the beſt, is, notwithſtanding, the making of many *old maids*.

To conclude, at preſent, let me adviſe you, my dear friend, not to be precipitate in your choice. You are young enough to wait ſeveral years, and indeed forever, rather than beſtow yourſelf on an unworthy or improper object. And when you have fixed your eye on any woman, with ſome thoughts of the kind, be not too quick in diſcovering your intentions;—obſerve her in company, both of the ſocial and formal kind: for if you give her to ſuſpect your views, and ſhe ſhould not diſlike you, ſhe will be always on her guard, and you may never know her thoroughly till *after* you are married, however well you may think you do, and then it may perhaps be to your ſorrow—And by this precaution you may perhaps ſave yourſelf from being coquetted, and *made a fool of* by the girls, as they ſometimes pleaſantly term it.

Mrs. —— deſires to be particularly remembered to you. Believe me to be, with the greateſt affection,

Your very warm friend.

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA MINERVA.

On seeing two beautiful Young Ladies at a Funeral.

THE blooming roſe endures a bliſt;
Sweet youth and beauty muſt decay:
E'en day itſelf by night o'ercaſt,
Shall fade and ſlowly melt away.

Thy pretty cheeks muſt ſoon impair
Before the warrior's baneful arms;
Down to the grave thy forms repair,
Stripp'd of their beauty and their charms.

Thy poet too, but mortal clay,
Shall in one bed with you be laid,
There lie unknown, till comes that day,
When human ſhall be heav'nly made.

This worthleſs life I'd free reſign—
Surrender breath without a tear,
If I but thought ſuch charms as thine,
Would weep and follow at my bier.

PHILANDER.

THE AMERICAN CAPTIVE IN ALGIERS.

OH! think on my fate, once I freedom enjoy'd,
Was as happy as happy could be;
But pleaſure is flown! even hope is deſtroy'd!
A captive alas! on the ſea!
I was ta'en by the foe—'twas the fiat of fate,
To tare me from her I adore;
When tho't brings to mind my once happy ſtate,
I ſigh while I tug at the oar.
Hard, hard is my fate; oh! how galling my chain,
My life's ſteer'd by miſery's chart;
And though 'gainſt my tyrants I ſcorn to complain,
Tears guſh forth to eaſe my ſad heart:
I diſdain e'en to ſhrink, though I ſee the ſharp laſh,
Yet my breaſt bleeds for her I adore;
While around me the unfeeling billows will daſh,
I ſigh and ſtill tug at the oar.
How fortune deceives! I had pleaſure in tow,
The port where ſhe dwelt we'd in view;
But the wiſh'd nuptial morn was o'er-clouded with woe,
And dear Anna! I was hurri'd from you:
Our veſſel was boarded, and I borne away,
To behold my dear Anna no more!
But diſpair waſtes my ſpirits, my form feels decay'd—
He ſigh'd—and expired at the oar.

Meſſrs. Printers.

By giving the following extract a place in your paper, you will oblige— S.

"LIFE is ſhort, the poor pittance of ſeventy years is not worth being a villain for: what matters it if your neighbour lay interred in a ſplendid tomb. Sleep *you* with innocence: look behind you in the tracks of time, a vaſt deſart of unnumbered ages lies open in the retroſpect. Through this deſart have your forefathers journeyed on, till wearied with years and ſorrow, they ſunk from the walk of man. You muſt leave them where they fell, and you are to go only a little further, where you will find eternal reſt. Whatever you may encounter between the cradle and the grave, be not diſmayed. The univerſe is in endleſs motion, every moment big with innumerable events, which came not in ſlow ſucceſſion, but burſting forcibly from a revolving and unknown cauſe, fly over this orb with diverſified influence: ſhould you be plunged into diſagreable circumſtances, from thoſe very circumſtances may another be at that moment riſing to the ſummit of his good fortune; ſo may your neighbour's inconvenience prove beneficial to you.

"None can know the eternal purpoſe of exiſtence; but there is a grand aquilibrium preſerved by one mighty chain of dependencies. Look then at the univerſe; limit not the view of your ſoul to one hemiſphere; and aſk your reaſon, if, in ſuch awful revolutions of worlds and their inhabitants, pain or pleaſure muſt not conſtitutionally affect you. Be ever fearleſs; yield reluctantly to the paſſions, increaſe the regions of the mind, and know that as you have no will to reſiſt the power of death, death can be no evil further than it affects the imagination. To ſleep, to go through various changes, or to wake everlaſtingly, is equally independent of your will. Therefore cheerfully truſt the future, only dread the act that may wound your eſtabliſhed rectitude of thought."

THOUGHTS *on* PRIDE *and* VANITY,
as it reſpects the Female Sex.

The different effects of Pride and Vanity, is ſtriking in the famale part of mankind.—A proud woman will invent and contrive a thouſand ways to live "within herſelf," and not be "beholden" to her neighbours—a vain woman will make ten thouſand pitiful ſhifts rather than not appear genteel.—A proud woman will ſave her friends—a vain one will ſacrifice any one, to be thought cunning or witty.—A proud woman will give due praiſe to merit—even—if found in a woman more handſome, and more generally beloved than herſelf—a vain woman will have a but—or an if—or a ſhrug of the ſhoulder—or a diſagreeble twiſting turn-up of the noſe and lip.—A proud MARRIED woman will never let it be known that ſhe thinks herſelf ſuperior to her huſband—a vain MARRIED women—will, if ſhe brought a fortune with her—find a variety of ways to introduce the great advantage her huſband received by marrying her—what great ſervice her friends are to him—and how many pains and loſes he has avoided by following her advice.—The proud woman will be happy when her HUSBAND is reſpected. The vain woman will not ſo much as think of her huſband, if the appearance of reſpect is ſhewn to her.——The proud wowan will make a GOOD WIFE—the vain one—a BAD MISTRESS.

TRUTH TOLD AT LAST.

SAYS Pontius in rage, contradicting his wife,
You never yet told me one truth in your life.
Vex'd Pontia no way could this theſis allow,
You're a cuckold, ſays ſhe; do I tell you truth now.

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA MINERVA.

IF the magnitude of a man's calabaſh were the criterion by which we might eſtimate the acuteneſs of his intellect, I confeſs I could deſignate a certain claſs of loggerheads that would paſs for perfect Newtonian witches. But according to recent diſcoveries, a ſurpluſage of brains is a perfect vortex of tar or birdlime, in which ideas are hampered and ſtrangled to death. This unwieldineſs of brains, we know, is ominous of ſtupidity; for what a pretty fiſt would an ox make in attempting to catch muſquitoes. Some philoſophers have ſquare heads, and ſome flat heads; but they all fancy they poſſeſs the hawks eyes of Hermes; and that fat brained Stoic ZENO (or rather NEMO would have been a more appoſite ſignature) in conſequence of his being able to tranſcribe a learned quotation which he found by accident in caſually opening Mr. Huell's works, attributes to himſelf a penetration as ſharp as the edge of a broad-ax. But I am afraid our literary minion will cut his own ſhins in affecting a dexterity in the uſe of edge tools: as ſome children in wielding razors are apt to cut their own throats.

He ſays the Baltic ſea has been obſerved to recede from the land half an inch annually, and conſequently its ſhores will in time either riſe ſome hundreds of miles high, and perhaps run foul of the moon, or this inland ſea will be depreſſed till its bed becomes dry!! and if this depreſſion continue in the Britiſh or Atlantic ocean a ſufficient length of time, an immenſe auger-hole will be bored through the waters ſo that poſterity may perhaps ſee the antipodes walking on their heads. This is Mr. NEMO's ſyſtem; but I think this *ſage* philoſopher ſhould have told us that after a certain point of depreſſion the waters return again, as is known to be the caſe in Lake Superior.

He ſeems to conclude from the marine productions that are found in Mount Ætna, that a conſiderable part of it was once covered with the ſea; but he certainly ought to know that oyſter-ſhells and crabs' claws have been found near the ſummits of the higheſt mountains in the world, where they were probably depoſited by Noah's flood.

An animadverſion upon his crudities reſpecting the formation of iſlands is obviouſly unneceſſary, and therefore let not tinkers, black-ſmiths, nor any other kind of ſmiths, wield the pen of philoſophy with their ſooty and ungracious paws. FAREWELL.

TOBY.

HORRIBLE INSTANCE OF REVENGEFUL JEALOUSY.

THE marchioneſs of Aſtorgas, who lived in the time of Charles the Second, king of Spain, ſuſpected the fidelity of her huſband. Having diſcovered that he had engaged in an amour with a young lady, diſtinguiſhed almoſt beyond the reſt of her ſex by the graces of her perſon and the beauties of her countenance, ſhe flew at once to this unfortunate object of her reſentment, murdered her, tore out her heart, and then, returning home, had it ſerved up amongſt the diſhes at the table of her huſband. When he had eaten of it, ſhe aſked him whether the diſh which ſhe had purpoſely prepared for him, proved agreeable to his palate. He anſwered, that he had found it delicious.—"At this," ſaid ſhe, "I am not ſurpriſed; for it is the heart of the woman whom you ſo much adored." Scarcely had ſhe uttered theſe words, when, taking from a cabinet the bloody head of this devoted victim to her jealouſy, ſhe rolled it along the table at which her huſband and ſeveral of his friends were ſitting. Availing herſelf of the firſt moments in which they remained motionleſs and aſtoniſhed at the horror of the ſcene, the marchioneſs inſtantly diſappeared, took refuge in a convent, and there becoming a lunatic, expired under an agony of mind too ſhocking to admit of a deſcription.

Philadelphia, *October* 3.

A letter from New-York, dated Thurſday, ſays —"This morning died Col. Oſwald."

The French gazette ſays, that grief and conſternation reſounded through St. James's on receiving the account of the defeat of the emigrants—and that neither George nor Pitt had appeared in public ſince the arrival of the unfortunate intelligence.

Extract of a letter from New-York, dated yeſterday.

"The fever ſtill continues raging, but not ſo bad as it was a few days ſince. Mrs. Abeel (wife of Garret Abeel) and the Doctor her ſon, Mr. Cady, and the wife of Jeremiah Smith, are dead. We are tired of keeping ourſelves confined to the houſe—for we ſcarcely ſtir out from Monday to Sunday, and uſe nothing for drink but vinegar and water."

The following are the articles of a Treaty concluded between the French Republic and the king of Spain:

Article 1. There ſhall be a peace, amity and good underſtanding between the French Republic & the kingdom of Spain.

2. In conſequence thereof all hoſtilities ſhall ceaſe between the two powers, as ſoon as the preſent treaty is ratified.

3. Neither of the two powers ſhall furniſh againſt the other any contingent in men, arms, horſes, money or ſhips; nor ſhall the two powers grant a paſſage through their territories to any troops of nation at war with either of the contracting powers.

4. The French republic reſtores to his his Catholic majeſty all the conqueſts ſhe has made in his dominions during the preſent war, in a fortnight from the date of the ratification of the preſent treaty.

5. The fortreſſes and ſtrong places taken by the French republic ſhall be reſtored, with the cannon and ammunition found in them at the period of their capture.

6. There ſhall immediately be appointed commiſſioners on each ſide to fix in an amicable manner the reſpective limits of the two empires; the commiſſioners ſhall take for the baſis of theſe limits the tops of mountains.

7. In exchange for the poſſeſſions yielded by the 4th article the king of Spain cedes to the French Republic the Spaniſh part of St. Domingo, with all the cannon and ammunition contained in it.

8. Until a new treaty of commerce ſhall be concluded between the two powers, all the communications ſhall remain as they were before the war. The merchants of the two nations ſhall travel thro' the territory of the two powers, provided they conform to the laws, manners, and cuſtoms of the country.

9. All the priſoners on either ſide ſhall be liberated, without any diſtinction of rank or number. The Portugueſe priſoners in the ſervice of his Catholic majeſty ſhall alſo be given up.

10. The articles of this treaty extend to the republic of the United Provinces the ally of France.

11. The French republic accepts the mediation of the king of Spain in favour of the kings of Portugal, of Naples, of Sardinia, and all the princes of Italy, for the re-eſtabliſhment of peace.

12. The French republic convinced of the intereſt which his Catholic majeſty has in the eſtabliſhment of a general peace, will accept his good offices in favour of all the other belligerent powers who ſhall wiſh to treat with her.

Done at Baſle, the 4th Thermidor, July 22.

LONDON, JULY 30.

EXPEDITION AGAINST FRANCE.

Yeſterday, capt. Durham, of the Anſon frigate, arrived with diſpatches from Quiberon bay, dated the 23d inſt. The intelligence reſpecting this ill-fated expedition, though it has been anticipated by every perſon not abſolutely ſtupid, or blinded by prejudice, is truly afflicting to humanity. On the 21ſt inſt. at night, the French general Hoche, with a conſiderable force, made an attack upon Quiberon, drove every thing before him, cut thoſe who defended fort Sanſculotte to pieces, carried all the entrenchments, and completely drove the emigrants from the peninſula. To this country the whole force has been loſt—but it does not follow that all the individuals who compoſed it have been butchered; on the contrary many of them have joined the Republicans and aſſiſted them in gaining the victory. What elſe could be expected from men who were priſoners of war in this country, and who enliſted in the emigrant corps with no other view than thereby to be enabled to reach their own country? The moſt moderate account we have heard, ſtates the loſs in killed at upwards of two thouſand, beſides the priſoners, and thoſe who went over to the enemy. All our ſtores are gone, and all our artillery including ſome upper deck guns that had been landed from our ſhips for the batteries, beſides thoſe which we formerly announced to have been loſt.

Some of the emigrants fortunately effected their eſcape on board our fleet. Many in attempting to gain the ſhips periſhed in the water.

"PLYMOUTH, July 28.

"Laſt night arrived here the Anſon, of 38 guns, capt. Durham, from Quiberon bay: ſhe left the fleet of Belle iſle then blocking up the French coaſt. The news ſhe has brought is of a very unpleaſant nature: the current report is, that a very general action took place on the 21ſt inſtant, on the peninſula of Quiberon, between the Republican army and the royaliſts, in which the latter were cut to pieces: the ſlaughter continued the greateſt part of the day and night, no quarter being given to either party; the loſs of the royaliſts amounted to about eight thouſand men; the loſs of cloathing and arms is alſo ſtated to be very conſiderable, beſides the upper deck guns of ſeveral men of war that had been previouſly landed for the uſe of the royaliſts; in ſhort, if the defeat is to the extent reported, the expedition is nearly at an end. Several wounded royaliſt officers is on board the Anſon and her crew is ſaid to be very ſickly.

"We are happy to ſtate, that it does not appear that any of the Britiſh ſoldiers were in the action, or that any of them are miſſing."

Extract of a letter from an officer in Sir J. B. Warren's fleet.

"Bay of Quiberon, July 23.

"What I feared, has at length happened, and the emigrants have loſt the peninſula of Quiberon—a place of ſuch ſtrength, that half the men they had might have defended it againſt any force that could have been brought againſt it, if treachery had not been employed to ſacrifice them.

"On the night of the 21ſt, the enemy invited by ſome of the emigrant corps, marched againſt their advanced guard, and they deceived one or two centinels, from having the counter-ſign. They arrived at the fort without a gun being fired, and they were in the ſame manner actually aſſiſted in taking poſſeſſion of it by the troops who were poſted in it to defend it. Count d'Tilly, was killed by his own troops while encouraging the men to reſiſt the enemy. The regiment of Dreſnay laid down their arms; thoſe of Leon and Damas fought bravely; but the moſt noble ſtand made againſt the enemy was by Compt de Sombreuil's troops who protected the retreat of thoſe which embarked. By his ſpirited conduct, and by the aſſiſtance of ſeveral veſſels from Warren's fleet, the enemy were much annoyed in advancing and time was given to ſome of the troops, women and children, to get on board the ſhips. The count de Eury is among the killed: he is ſaid to have killed himſelf, when he ſaw at length he could not rally his troops—and the count de Sombreuil, with his regiments, are made priſoners. A want of attention to the conduct of the emigrant troops has proved the ruin of the expedtion.

"In ſpite of the loſs of this place, which was certainly of conſiderable importance, it is impoſſible not to be ſanguine of ultimate ſucceſs: this part of the country is entirely in favour of the royaliſt cauſe. The armies of Charette, &c. are very ſtrong, and that of the general Timignac has augmented to 7000, and he has obtained ſeveral important advantages over the enemy. We do not believe there is one man in ten of the country people favourable to the Convention, in this part of France; and, with an able commander, the royaliſt's cauſe may ſcarcely doubt of ſucceſs."

PROPOSALS,

By WOODRUFF & PECHIN,

For Printing, by Subſcription,

A Geographical, Commercial, and Philoſophical

VIEW

OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA;

COMPREHENDING,

A Deſcription of their Extent, Civil Diviſions, Chief Towns, Climates, Curioſities, Soils, Mountains, Lakes, Rivers, Springs and Iſlands; Natural Hiſtory, Production, Population, Character, Government, Provincial Conſtitutions, Courts of Juſtice, Religion, Agriculture, Commerce, and Hiſtory; copious and intereſting Accounts of the late War; general and particular Deſcription of the Weſtern Territory, including all that is important to thoſe who are about to purchaſe and ſettle in that, or any other Part of the United States.

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A CURIOUS DESCRIPTION OF AMERICA,

And the numerous Tribes of American Indians—their Manners, Cuſtoms, &c. &c.

IN THE WORK IS ALSO INCLUDED,

A VIEW OF THE PRESENT STATE OF THE SPANISH, FRENCH, AND DUTCH POSSESSIONS IN AMERICA, AND THE WEST-INDIA ISLANDS;

Illuſtrated with large Maps, Charts, and Plates, including an extenſive Number of elegant and accurate Repreſentations of the moſt remarable Quadrupeds, Birds, Fiſhes, Reptiles, &c. peculiar to the American Continent. Compiled from the beſt and moſt recent Authorities, and original and authentic Communications.

By the Rev. *W. WINTERBOTHAM.*

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Court of Apollo.

A NEW SONG.

A WEDDING's a wedding the univerſe owns,
From Pekin to London, from Turkey to Dover;
Married folk are the ſame, wherever they're born,
From the Cape of Good Hope till you double Cape Horn. Sing Bulnimous Ora, &c.

When a King means to wed, why he does it by proxy,
And ſends over a Lord to eſpouſe his fair doxy;
When a commoner marries, the bridegroom, poor elf,
Is obliged to go through all the buſineſs himſelf.

In Otaheyte, they ſay, there's a ſtick breed in two,
If you look in Cook's Voyage, you'll find it is true;
In England they never break ſticks it is ſaid,
But married folks often—break each other's head!

A ſoldier and laſſy jump over a ſword,
A ſailor and girl oft take each other's word,
A Jew may eſpouſe his great aunts or his couſins,
And Turks buy their wives, like our chickens, by dozens.

At a wedding in Ireland, they're wond'rous frisky,
With blackeyes, bloody noſes, punch, claret and whiſky;
In Scotland they've haggiſs, hodge-podge, and ſheep's head;
And in Holland they ſmoke till they're all put to bed.

By whatever ſtrings we are join'd to each other,
May huſband and wife live like ſiſter and brother,
Be our country's int'reſts united forever,
Like faſces that are married to ſeparate never.

FOR THE PHILADELPHIA MINERVA.

Meſſrs. Printers,

IN obſerving Mr. Amen make a ſtand, in order to compoſite for the impropriety of his laſt conduct, I ſhall compliment him on his apparent courage; without deviating from that opinion, which his late cunning has rendered unpardonable; he has no need, therefore, to dread certain weapons, which may be employed by his Don Quixote ſcurvy, tho' too honorable to be employed againſt him.

The ſorrow he again expreſſes by entering in this controverſy the curioſity of the public, and promoting the circulatory fale of the FEDERAL POLITICIAN, *occaſions a ſigh, which his empoiſoned breaſt by a barrel of gall has already emitted, and it is neceſſary to repeat to the impartial reader the ungenerous tendency of his unmeaning pollies.*

In order to convince the public of the imbecility of my competitor, I requeſt them to obſerve, that far from attacking in a conſiſtent manner the principles of the work in queſtion, his pedantic abilities are only employed in perſonal reflections on the author of it. ¿ Is this a proper anſwer to the queſtions fairly propoſed to him (and which he tacitly had the impudence to attempt to diſcuſs by his recent appearance on the newſpaper ſtage) or can this be conſidered a ſober, ingenious, and gentlemanlike behaviour? Alas! nothing better can an honeſt foreigner expect from an unprincipled coward.

But let candour remark on the conduct of this foreigner, *(who is four years a citizen of Pennſylvania, and Mr. Amen in the fair face of the day cannot, perhaps, boaſt ſuch a privilege) this foreigner will appear very different from what the pencil of a dauber would endeavour to repreſent him. ¿ How can it be ſuppoſed, that a man who is an enemy to this happy ſhore through a genuine love of liberty—who dared, in favor of the rights of man, to retroach (in his firſt publication of 1794*) and develope the injuſtice and criminality of all deſpotic and ariſtocratic governments, and who in his new production, (the Federal Politician) truly conſiſtent with his democratic principles, abhors and deſpiſes all Britiſh duplicity and policy.† How can ſuch a man be ſuppoſed an ariſtocrat, and much leſs that he has pullyfied a work* directed to complete an ariſtocratical eſtabliſhment? *Further—a writer, who (through means of his firſt publication) voluntarily exiled himſelf from Europe, the ſcene of tyranny, and finds no other country more favourable to the ſafety of his perſon than the United States, ¿ How then can it be ſuppoſed that he would publiſh a work ungrateful to the land on which he has found ſuch a kind aſylum?*

Any other miſrepreſentations, but theſe, could hope for ſucceſs in the opinion of readers unacquainted with the ſtile; Mr. Amen, therefore, ſhews himſelf exceedingly deficient in criticiſm and candour, in aſperſing a character with ſuch unmerited calumny. With reſpect to the author's expectation of official promotion and emolument, *it muſt be conceived a wretched inſinuation, congenial only to the boſom that harboured it. His production‡ contradict this baſe falſehood.*

To prove the inconſiſtency of your political impoſtor, and in order to form a plain idea of his impudence, I am under the neceſſity of pointing out ſeveral contradictions in the ſarrago of his unconnected ſentences; but, Meſſrs. Printers, I truſt you will excuſe my prolixity on this occaſion.

In the 2d paragraph of his firſt eſſay, he boldly aſſerts that the author's lucubrations *cannot evince philoſophy, patriotiſm, nor friendſhip? ſoon after, forgetting himſelf, he ſays,* that before the work *(Federal Politician)* is fit for the American public, it muſt undergo the ordeal and analytical modification upon *pure* philanthropic principles. *The comparative degree more, unjuſtly acknowledging the poſitive, proves evidently that Amen looks upon the ſaid work as a* philanthropic one; *and whereas philanthrophy means patriotiſm and friendſhip, therefore he confirms what previouſly he denies.*

Further—in the 3d paragraph of his above mentioned firſt production, he abſolutely declares that the ſubſcribers have thrown away their money, and may incur a double loſs in waſting their precious time over his worthleſs; *and in his late attack, inſinuates, that the Federal Politician* would lead to complete an ariſtocratical eſtabliſhment. *How falſe is this laſt aſſertion—yet for a moment I will agree with him, but let us admit that ariſtocracy is a crafty ſyſtem, and of ſuch refined policy (though unjuſt in itſelf) as to afford an advantage to a few ſharpers over the reſt; of courſe I would be glad to know, ¿ how an ignorant production can eſtabliſh at the ſame time a cunning ſyſtem? Either the Federal Politician is a ſilly work, and then it is not calculated to promote ariſtocracy—or it ſurely tends to complete an ariſtocratical eſtabliſhment, and then far from conveying nonſenſe, it is a ſenſible and energetic work.*

I ſhould certainly intrude on the limits of your gazette, were I to undertake a minute diſcuſſion of Amen's contradictions; but as I mean to avoid entering on a uſeleſs taſk, I ſhall leave it to our readers to judge, whether I have reaſon to ſay that Mr. Amen has more petulance *in his tongue, than* ſolidity *in his brains.*

If I be not miſtaken, it appears that the Federal Politician would pleaſe him exceedingly, were it not for the fifth chapter, which evidently is wormwood *to him and his brethren in politics. The* cage *for antifederals, the meaſures recommended againſt thoſe lawleſs beings, and the nooſe contrived for the neck of traitors, convey indeed a melancholy ſound to their ears. Theſe are the deadly wounds that wring his heart, as appears by his acrimony and complainings. He brings to my memory the ſentiments of Valerius, Beliſarius, Pittacus, &c. &c. who have mounted the tribune of the* AURORA *to preach up the neceſſity of deſtroying the federal government, that the public buſineſs, amid ſcenes of anarchy, might fall into their* patriotic *hands. Let theſe favorites of civil diſcord look upon the Federal Politician as oppoſite to their creed; they have ſtill to conſider what is more wounding to their feelings, that is,* a guilty conſcience.

Mr. Amen cites the author's address to his enemies, *as his ſelected point of criticiſm; but either through ignorance or malice, he omitted the appendix to the ſaid title, which is,* if he has any. *His negligence in this reſpect is of greater conſequence than he is capable of perceiving. The author could not, nor did he ever expect to find enemies to his ſound ſyſtem among reaſonable and well diſpoſed citizens, but it might be the caſe among thoſe on the oppoſite ſide. He was convinced that an* Amen *might ſpring from the latter, and the very addreſs actually conſorted, fully points out the critic's deſcription; let him therefore read again the firſt paragraph of it, and conſider the ſtyle, with which the author addreſſes him.*

His hint of my being the author of the *Federal Politician, though a preſumptuous one, does me great honour, and it muſt reflect a much greater on Mr. Amen to contend in the republic of letters with James Ph. Puglia; but we are both deprived of ſimilar ſatisfaction by his expreſſions at the end of the preface: I think, however, Mr. Puglia would take up the pen if a writer of his own rank and information could come forward; but until ſuch an antagoniſt (which cannot be readily found) enters the liſt with him, the Federal Politician contemptuouſly ſmiles at all* Rubbiſh *and* Snubbiſh *puppies, who bark at him in the dark. ¿ Where will Amen's great ex[illegible]ow ſtand?*

To conclude, Gentlemen, your writer has produced no ſolid remarks on ſaid work, after the ſolemn ſummons he received; thinking him, therefore, quite incompetent to the taſk, I only challenge him to prove his own aſſertions, tending to inſinuate that the Federal politician ſtands upon ariſtocratic principles—*that the author pulliſhed it* for ſimiſter purpoſes, *or through an* expectation *of* official promotion and emolument—*and chiefly, that his* lucubrations neither evince philoſophy, patriotiſm, nor friendſhip. *Let him chooſe any of theſe points for argument's ſake, and purſue the reſt in rotation, if he has judgment enough to meet a judicious opponent, and profeſſes any ſenſe of honor. For my part, I take upon me to teach him what he does not yet know, which is, that old latin proverb:* antequam loquaris cogita. *But if, notwithſtanding theſe fair propoſals, he is ſeized with a panic, before he takes to his heels, I adviſe him quietly to reſume his ſtation in the ranks, and give up the taſk to a more able ſcribbler, in order to avoid filling up your uſeful gazette with his puerile ſentiments, ſo diſguſting to me and your readers in general. At any rate, if he ſhould reply, pleaſe to inform him in ſecret that the exordium of his laſt piece is directed to a* plural *number, and in the concluſion addreſſed to a* ſingular, *which is quite improper, and ungrammatical in a pedant ſo well verſed in the beauties of language, and rhetorical ornaments.*

READER.

* The Spaniſh work, entitled MAN UNDECEIVED.

† See Federal Politician } Chap. ii. § 4. ad. med. Chap. iii. § 14, 15, & 16, with the note *(i.)*

‡ See the Dedication of the MAN UNDECEIVED. Federal Politician, Chap. iv. note (19.)

NOTES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Many of our correſpondents in the city have ſubjected us to a conſiderable expenſe by tranſmitting their communications to us thro' the medium of the poſt-office. If they will forward their pieces to this office, they ſhall be received with grateful acknowledgments, and punctually attended to.

A Letter-Box is placed in the window for the reception of pieces for this paper.

We would enjoin controverſial brevity on our correſpondents.